HAS YOUR POST DONE ITS SHARE?—SEE PAGE 8

10c. a Copy

MAY 4, 1923

Vol. 5, No. 18

The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly at New York, N. Y. Entered ab second class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Entered ab second class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Postered ab second class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Postered ab second class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Postered ab second class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered Ab Second Class matter March 24, 1920, at the Post Office at New York N. Y. Postered Ab Second Class matter March 24







Tramp! Tramp! Without Rubber Heels

It wasn't so long ago when we were marching through the quiet French towns making more noise than a wooden-legged burglar throwing a fit on a tin roof.

Those spiked hobs whanged over the cobblestones and told the populace the Yanks with their chewing gum, peanut bars and cubical pieces of freckled tusk were coming.

When a bird snapped to attention and saluted in a military manner those heels clicked like the report of an exploding hand grenade.

In that era of whizbangs and seam manouvering only a rookie ever fell into line with rubber heels decorating his shoes—and not many hours would elapse thereafter until he had left his footprints around the incinerator, where he had been awarded with a detail for choosing his own style of foot apparel.

No claim will ever be made that rubber heels won the 'var. (Manufacturers of other articles, individuals, and nations please take notice.)

But-after la guerre where is the American who didn't make a bee-line for a shoe emporium and order the best rubber pads that money could buy?

We all did. We got well heeled. And back on the pavements we jumped when flivvers backfired and we landed without a jar on the O'Sullivans, Cat's Paw, Goodyear, U. S. Rubber, Slip-Nots, or some other brand.

Advertisers think otherwise. No manufacturer of rubber heels has ever appealed to the service men and women through our Weekly to use his product. Do they dope it out that we are all run down at the heels, that we are proud of those old hobs, tans and blacks and still wear 'em, or that we became so accustomed to the iron heel that we use them from the bathing beaches to the ballrooms.

To the Advertising Manager, 627 West 43d St., New York. I would like to see the following brands advertised in our Weekly:
Rubber Heeis
Rubber Shoes
Give reasons
This coupon is for all Legionnaires and Auxiliary Membors to fill out. But if you are a dealer or salesman, please check
Name
Address
Post

Leave your mark on the dotted sands of the coupon. Help Buddy lead a less noisy life as he paces the floor at home, enters a post meeting late or swings along the main street in deep thought

Name your favorite brand of rubber heel.

And rubber footwear, too. What make of tennis or sport shoe is best for the Ligneous Legionnaire, the Coupon Kid himself. Help the barrel-shaped Buddy get into his old time form through playing tennis or golf.

Everybody is welcome in the Coupon Boosters and every little coupon will carry a worthwhile message to the national advertiser.

These Advertisers support us—Let's reciprocate. And tell them so hy saying, when you write—"I saw your ad in

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VVLoftis Bros. & Co	26

"BE IT RESOLVED, that with a firm belief in the value of our magozine—The American Legion Weekly—as a national advertising medium; with the realization that due to limited subscription price and constantly increasing cost of production, the improvements which we desire to see in it will only be made possible through increased advertising revenue—and that increased advertising revenue depends primarily upon our support of advertisers in the Weekly—we hereby pledge our support and our patronage, as individuals, and as an organization, to those advertisers who use the columns of our official magazine—The American Legion Weekly."

Resolution passed unanimously at the Se National Convention of The American Legion.

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/ISCELLANEOUS		
American Chicie Co		
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VJ. Buchstein	28	_
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VDictograph Products Corp	28	т
Hotel Cairo		•
Hotel St. James	23	т
Marvel Mfg. Co		•
VPhiladelphia Key Co		v
VPhilo Burt Mfg. Co	29	٧
VThe Rat Biscuit Co		т
United Profit Sharing Corp	20	r
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS		
VVVVC. G. Conn, Ltd		Т
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our American Legion Weekly." Or tell the same thing to the salesman or dealer from whom you buy their products.

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VVVVShipman Ward Mfg. Co

LET'S PATRONIZE THEY ADVERTISE

While Trading Co... 26 While Trading Co... 29 VVVShipman Ward Mig. Co... V Service Stripe—Awarded Advertisers with Us Regularly for Over Six Months. The VV, VVV, VVVV, VVVV AND VVVVV Stripers are increasing. Notice the *. This is the insignia for the Croix de Coupon, Awarded When the Seventh Service Stripe is Die.

We do not knowingly accept false or fraudulent advertising, or any advertising of an objectionable nature. See "Our Platform," issue of December 22, 1922. Readers are requested to report promptly any failure on the part of an advertiser to make good any representation contained in an advertisement in the American Legion Weekly.

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THEY LET'S PATRONIZE

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MAY 4, 1923

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PAGE 3

The Movies Discover America By Charles Phelps Cushing

HE motion - picture industry has made the most amazing discovery of its young life. It has discovered America's picturesque past. The dazzling pageant of the rare old, fair old, golden days—from the landing of Columbus to the Custar massages inclusive.

bus to the Custer massacre, inclusivehas gone to the heads of producers and directors like waterfront hootch. They are dizzy with enthusiasm now about heroes out of history and legend and historical novels and plays, about Ye Olde Tyme backgrounds and conflicts in gental about the standard world as a conflict of the standard world.

eral, about what the industry used to abhor above all things—the "period stuff."

Jesse Lasky has deserted his Broadway cabaret scenes to produce photoplays of colonial Virginia, old Salem and the trails of the pigner Far West Mark Sepnett of the pioneer Far West. Mack Sennett has abandoned his bathing girls on the California sands and turned his hand to an historical comedy laid in early-day Monterey, the old Pacific capital. Even the ultra-modern Marshall Neilan not long ago caught the fever, too, and laid aside his search for plots in the latest five-star editions to find a tenser conflict in the dusty chronicles of General Custer's last stand. Edward Laemmle, who used to specialize in blood and thunder "perils" and western serials, continues to direct serials, but now of a new type which his press agent describes as "historical chapter plays." And

Five hundred prairie schooners, many of them real veterans of the pioneer period, went into the heart of a Utah desert to portray the brave days of '48 for "The Covered Wagon," by Emerson Hough. Jacqueline Logan (below), in another Paramount production, Joseph Hergesheimer's "Java Head," shows what the women were wearing in Salem, Massachusetts, that same year

Charles Ray, an actor-producer accustomed to speak for himself, announces that he has shelved his country boy's straw hist and overalls and cast him-self in his next picture as John Alden, in Pilgrims' garb, with long curls and a sword.

Not only have the movies discovered history; the historians, at the same time, have discovered the movies. This latter curious fact accounts for the presence now, among directors whose intents are confessed by making a companying the confessed by making a companying the confessed by the confess confessedly much more commercial-minded, of one Edwin Hollywood, who is on the set in the employ of the Chronicles of America Picture Corporation, directing the making, for Yale University, of a hundred reels of American history stories. At the moment the Yale University Press was completing the last of its fifty-volume "Chronicles of America" books, work was under way to follow up these books with thirty-six features of history-in-celluloid. "The first of these stories, "Columbus" and "Jamestown" and "The Pilgrims," now are finished; next upon the schedule are "Vincennes" and one that is provisionally titled "Lexington."

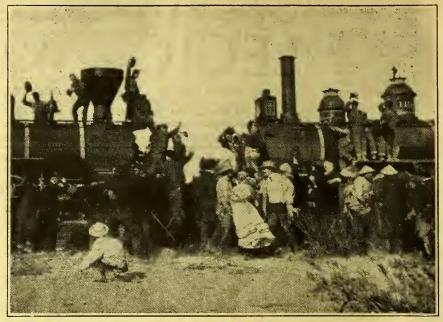
Absolute accuracy in background and costume and story are requirements of the Yale enterprise. A good deal of trouble and expense for the sake of accuracy is credited to the makers of some of the industry's films, too, but here not

so much because such fidelity is held sacred in itself, as because attention to detail supposedly will heighten a highly desirable illusion of realism. In the trade's films, of course, the star must be propitiated; and history, at times, must make concessions to box-office de-

mands.

A strangely assorted array of stars they are, too, these who have been seen lately or who are soon to be seen in leading rôles out of American history, legend, and novels and plays with historical backgrounds. The grimness of the Custer massacre, for example, was relieved by that freekle-faced kid, Wesley Barry. Cowboy Will Rogers was called upon to portray Ichabod Crane. The star of that Sennett picture of California in 1835 is Mabel Normand. From arduous gaiety in cabaret scenes, Betty Compson and Marion Davies have been called upon to array themselves in poke bonnets and hoop skirts. Charles Ray has been photographed aboard the Mayflower, and Tully Marshall aboard a prairie schooner. The fifth of the line of actor Jeffersons was drafted to play a film version of Rip Van Winkle. Then there's Art Acord—but perhaps you won't know that name unless you used to follow blood and thunder serials.

The source books for plots are equally strange and various. Among the authors consulted are numbered the painstaking historians of the Yale Chronicles and the fancy-free dime novelists who penned the adventures of Buffalo Bill; Henry W. Longfellow and Washington Irving, from works picked up in second-hand book stores; Emer-son Hough and Randall Parrish, from the chain drug-store selections of popular novels; Gertrude Atherton and Joseph Hergesheimer, to appeal to tastes more sophisticated; and such



East meets west in the Universal production, "In the Days of Buffalo Bill," when the last spike is driven linking the Union Pacific Railway



Marion Davies, occupying a properly antique doorway in "Little Old New York" (Cosmopolitan), proves by her gray spats, silk topper and wallpaper waistcoat that the young blood of 1807 was a snappy dresser

The steel helmet new? Why, Yanks wore them three hundred years ago -witness this faithful setting of "Jamestown," one of the Yale historical series

well-known writers of historical novels and plays as Mary Johnston and Rida Johnson Young.

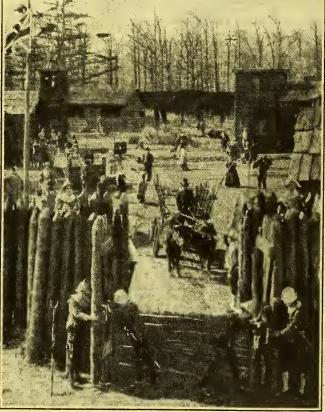
The backers of the Yale series are definite in assigning what motives moved

them. They say they are carrying on in the photoplay field a work begun long ago—that of furnishing the American public with interesting and accurate information about our past, and in par-ticular about such chapters of the past as have an inspirational value.

The producers of the "fourth industry's" historical stories are not quite so certain about just how they got started in this line. One obstacle was cleared away, for a beginning, when Douglas Fairbanks, with his success in "The Three Musket-eers," exploded the no-tion that no American picture fan would sit through a film laid in bygone times. Then along came some Then successful European historical films that suggested making American parallels. And by this time some

of the producers began to recall that "historical flavor" had in no wise injured the tremendous popularity of D. W. Griffith's "The Birth of a Nation." w. Grimth's "The Birth of a Nation."
Perhaps, they mused, they had been a
bit hasty in judging that the public
was prejudiced against "period stuff."
Thus Charles Ray, for an example,
was heard to explain his decision to
attempt to film "The Courtship of Myles
Standish":
"I first began to give serious thems!

"I first began to give serious thought to something like this when the big foreign pictures, based upon European history, began to come over to this side.



MAY 4, 1923



Their whole spirit was alien to American thought. Technically they were much in-ferior to American stand-ards, too. Yet they caught the imagination of our people and drew large patronage. Why? I asked myself. And I concluded that it was because they represented something more than mere entertainment; they had in each case a great underlying idea that might be summed up in the word 'tradition.' This gave them a reality that realism

tries so often in vain to copy."

While he was pondering upon tradition, Mr. Ray's sister suggested an inviting American theme in "The Courtship of Myles Standish." Forthwith Charles Ray took the plunge into eight months of hard work and an investment reported at not less than \$500,000. Three months were required to build a replica of the Mayflower. The model, which had to be built entirely of structural steel, cost more than its famous original. In order to produce the illusion of being a vessel crete redestal. An acre of artificial lake surrounds it.

The Yale historians were more fortunate in being able to se-

cure at much less expense the sort of vessels they required for their "Columbus" film. They borrowed from Chicago the Columbus caravels that were constructed for the 1893 World's Fair. But if necessity had demanded, they doubtless would have plunged just as deeply into expense. The motto of all makers of historical films is, as further evidence soon will disclose, "The illusion at any cost." No sense in trying to economize about a matter so important as this, they contend, for the use of historical settings and characters out of history heightens the effect of realism. The old Greeks knew this, and Shakespeare rediscovered it. So today among the makers of photoplays, even including the producers of blood and thunder serials, it is deemed desirable to use all the historical scenes and personages that the traffic will bear.

The Universal company, for example, used a little "history stuff" in a serial called "Winners of the West." It proved so effective that in making the next film, "In the Days (Continued on page 28)



From the many answers received to the letter of "A Mississippi Girl," which appeared in a recent issue of the Weekly under the title, "Have! We Changed?" the editors have selected two representative replies for publication. One is signed by "A Remnant of the A.E.F." and the other by "A Soldier's Wife." Each presents the reaction of war and after-the-war experience on a life that was profoundly affected by that experience. Though each writer presents a strictly personal and individual view of this reaction, the editors believe that every veteran will find in these self-revelations some echo of his own altered attitude toward life since he put off his uniform.

What Has Come Over Our Boys"?—

SUPPOSE we who went through the war in active service, who were lifted up

to the heights of patriotism, idealism and self-sacrifice, realize the distance we have fallen and the beauty of the vision we have lost sight of more than do the "observers" on the outside who are kind enough to notice that "something has happened to our boys." And I want to say right now that it is not the "reaction after the war." Are those who were willing to sacrifice everything for the vision going to backslide now if they believe those qualities are still needed? We are not so constituted. We leave that to some others we could name.

But first to introduce myself, so that you may better understand the point of view from which I argue. I went across in 1917, one of the first fifty thousand, and went through the war in an infantry outfit. I missed none of the big engagements in which Americans participated, so I know something of the sacrifices made and the sufferings en-

dured that the vision might be realized and the world made a better place to live in.

So, having told you who I am, I will now explain how it has affected me, that thereby you may gain some insight into the various stages we passed through to arrive finally at the somewhat uncertain classification in which we now find ourclassification in which we now find ourselves. Understand that I do not pretend to speak for the Legion, or even
the majority; but neither can I believe
that I am the only one of that host to
hold these views. Perchance one example will help toward a sympathetic
understanding of the rest.
I will pass rapidly over the period of

I will pass rapidly over the period of the war, but I must impress one fact upon you, or you will never understand This-our old standardswere all swept away, with one exception —patriotism. And patriotism meant— Old Glory, our belief in and protection of our wonderful womanhood, our as-sertion of our belief in our right to live and perpetuate our ideals as a nation and to accord that privilege to others. That is all we asked—we accepted no

You will notice that money is not isted—nor is class. It was all for the cause, and you accepted your position and did your bit with only a little occasional healthy grumbling—

By a Veteran and a Veteran's Wife

because, if anyone actually believed the thing you grumbled about, well, he had a fight on his hands. Religion? There

a fight on his hands. Religion? There was no religion higher than our resolve. Many a minister, priest and rabbi admitted they revised their ideas. Only one thing troubled my peace of mind. The prisoners we captured, strange to relate, were human just like you and me. And they worried over the welfare of their wives and children just as we did. And they thought they were fighting to protect them. Something was wrong here, for we couldn't both be right. But the force that urged us on swept this idea aside, and we thought no more of it—or vaguely as in a dream.

Then, of a sudden, the war was over. Then, of a sudden, the war was over. That didn't seem right. At one minute before eleven it was right to kill—at one minute after it was not. No cheering and celebrating here. We sat down as men in a daze, for we had fought so long that it seemed the proper thing to do

per thing to do.

In about a month the effects began to wear off and we became normal again. Our sense of humor during the war was beyond the understanding of those on the outside. It was a case of laugh or go cuckoo. But now it was over. We had won! We had fought to the last for our ideals and now surely they would be put into effect. War and militarism were crushed forever and we were going home, to live in an at-mosphere made clearer and better by the sacrifices made by us and by the far greater sacrifice made by those of our friends and comrades left behind. And we were going to practice this new-found love for our fellow man; we were going to share his hardships and help him to his feet. Just like the time we were all out of water with time we were all out of water with half a dozen of our wounded around us crying for water in their half delirium. And water came—oh! a pitifully little amount—and we gave it all to the wounded, and were repaid by that look of gratitude that stirred something 'way down deep within us so that I, for one, got very busy with something

Yes, it was going to be much better. Home! Visions of little mothers that brought tears to our eyes, for the

emotions were very strong then. And other visions, each to his fancy; but all of American girls, wives or sweethearts, the best in the world, as we had come to know. And then home at last, and our

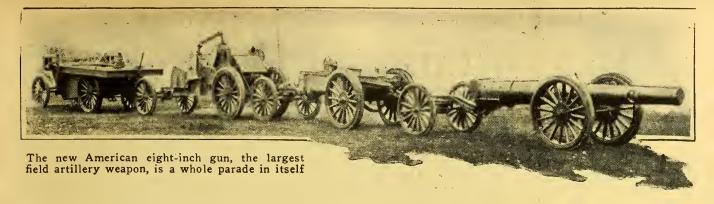
vision with us. Do you wonder that our eyes shone? Everything was seen through a rosy haze, and they all were glad to see us back—at first. But that dwindled rapidly until only your old army pal and your immediate family seemed to care. And here that old halfforgotten standard obtruded itself

But surely that couldn't amount to such an awful lot. Couldn't they see that that wasn't one of the big things in life, but only a standard of measure that we had set up for convenience? At any rate we would fix that. So with a smile on our faces we went with a sinite on our faces we went back to the old places where we had worked. Yes, we are right; they are glad to see us. They shake our hand and tell us what a wonderful army we were and-what a hard time they had on substitutes and without sugar. Finally we get around to the subject of the old job. The welcome smile fades a little and, to be fair, they have the courtesy to flush painfully while they tall us that husiness is rather propriets. tell us that business is rather poor since the war. Of course they will try to make room for us, but we shall have to start near the bottom again. You see, the person that has our old place sometimes even worked overtime during the war (and received double pay for it) and they can't turn around and let him go now. We can't quite see, but before we can explain our point of view he explains that of course it isn't his doing
—it's orders from above. We do understand that. That's passing the buck.

And then we tell him none too gently

where he can go with his job, and we figure we can get started somewhere else. But it seems that the sentiment is quite general. We do have an awful time getting started again, and we haven't much of that funny standard haven't much of that funny standard of theirs—money. We admit it is all right, but why not give us a chance to earn it? If the ideals for which we fought aren't going to be enforced, why, we shall try to live according to their standards, but we just can't do it if we don't get a chance. And we haven't money enough for a good suit haven't money enough for a good suit. (Continued on page 25)

MAY 4, 1923



When Gun Meets Gun

That "Next War" Will Carry the Fight Square Into the Enemy's Batteries

HAT sort of barrage service may our infantry count on from our artillery in the next war—if any, let us add for the sake of the optimistic? Will that service be prompt, accurate and effective, as should such a necessity of life? And may similar barrage efforts on the part of the enemy be expected to be more or less discouraged by the counterbattery work of our heavies?

The answer to those questions is yes —in so far as the service is a matter of improved materiel, of more efficient cannon, carriages, ammunition and

traction.

The grand old sport of artillery duels by proxy is coming to a closed season. Martial unpleasantness of the future will see less of the scheme whereby the

By Fairfax Downey

artillery of one side shot up the infantry of the other, causing the guns of the second to exact a double reprisal from the doughboys of the party of the first part. Greatly increased range and other factors are going to make those artillery duels far more personal, more a matter of single combat, gun to gun, and less an affair of via-infantry revenge. The prediction may be safely made that any conflict that may come will see a revision of the figures of the World War, which tabulate seventy-five percent of the losses as inflicted by artillery and twenty-five percent by other arms; which reckon seventyof the casualties five percent

suffered by the infantry and fifteen percent by the artillery. There will be a more proportionate give-and-take. The

pendulum is swinging back.

The trend of the artillery cannot be better illustrated than by a flash-back into the past and a glimpse into the future, based on striking developments made and in progress. Here is a description from the "Photographic History of the Civil War" on the cannonade at Cattushurg, which was called the at Gettysburg, which was called the heaviest artillery duel of the war:

Two Pennsylvania batteries on Cemetery Hill which had been captured by the Confederates were recovered in a gallant manner. The cannoneers, so summarily ousted, rallied and retook their guns by a vigorous attack with pistols, handspikes, rammers, stones and even fence rails.

The Federal artillery from Little Round Top to Cemetery Hill blazed "like a volcano" on the third day of the fight. Two hours after the firing opened the chief of artillery, with the approval of General Meade, caused his guns to cease firing in order to replenish the ammunition supply. This deceived the Confederates and Pickett's charge was made. No sooner was the advance begun than the Federal artillery belched forth all along the line, firing only at the approaching infantry. The brave assailants advanced even to the muzzles of the guns, the mass gradually diminishing as it approached. The commanders watched them breathlessly until they disappeared in a cloud of smoke. Only a few disorganized stragglers finally swept back.

Turn from that hand-to-hand fighting artillery of the past to the shell-to-shell fighting gunners of the future. The picture is drawn as illustrating the employment of new devices recently dewilliam J. Snow, Chief of Field Artillery, and by Major J. W. Anderson, field artillery representative with the

field artillery representative with the Ordnance Corps.

A battery of 75 mm. guns rumbles into a wood and takes up position. No vulnerable, horse-drawn limbers gallop back to the comparative safety of an echelon, for the battery is motorized. Nor is there even loss of time for un
(Continued on page 18)



New 155 mm. gun on tractor mounting, carrying its own power plant. Future war monuments will have to get along without the usual prancing battery horses

At Least \$100,000-Preferably \$200,000-for Overseas Graves

A Real Memorial Day Forever

WHERE THE GRAVES FUND STANDS

A SINGLING tin can arrived at National Headquarters of the Legion a few days ago, with a slit in the top of it which had been covered up with tape—adhesive, not red. It was from disabled veterans in Wards 1 and 3 of the Veterans Bureau hospital at Oteen, North Carolina, and represented their bit toward the Legion's Overseas Graves Endowment Fund. They didn't know how much they had given—a dime here, a quarter there JINGLING tin can arrived at had given—a dime here, a quarter there, had gone tinkling into the can. When the can was opened in the office of the National Treasurer of the Legion a total of \$18.09 rolled out to swell the graves

The spirit that was behind the men of Oteen is stirring the whole Legion and, through the Legion, the American public everywhere. At least \$100,000, preferably as much as \$200,000, to form a permanent endowment the income from which shall be devoted in perpetuity to decorating the graves of 32,000 American soldiers and sailors overseas—that is the Legion's goal. Succeeding weeks show not only larger totals of contributions, but a greatly increased number of contributing posts and Auxiliary units—to say nothing of some handsome donations from different units of the 40 and 8.

But Tipperary is still a long way to go. Those who are watching the fund go. Those who are watching the fund closely believe that the stride the Legion is beginning to hit will carry it over the top, but they insist that only with full, well-directed local co-operation can the goal be achieved. They have in mind such co-operation as Minnesota and Iowa are lending, for in these States, among others, effective state-wide publicity is being used and arrangements have been made with local newspapers to acknowledge contributions and give to acknowledge contributions and give

periodic accountings.

On this page the Weekly publishes the first of a series of tables showing the relative standings of Legion departments in continental United States, based on the proportion of Legion membership to the quota allotted each State. A similar table will be published every week until all contributions are in. It must be remembered that in many States posts are planning to send funds they collect locally to their department headquarters to be forwarded in a lump to the National Treasurer, so that the percentages shown in the table do not mean that the States have raised only this proportion of their quotas, but rather that the books of the National Treasurer credit them only with this proportion of the quotas actually in his hands.

Voiture No. 111, 40 and 8 Society, of Roci ster, New York, has forwarded a contribution of \$50 to the fund, raised by arresting members at a dance and fining them for the benefit of the en-

dowment.

During the week of April 16th con-

To April 14th. . \$13,786.65 April 16th more than \$1,100 was re-Week ending

April 21st . . 3,023.72 Total to April 7

21st \$16,810.37

Michigan Leads, Virginia Next

MICHIGAN this week heads the list MICHIGAN this week heads the list of contributors to the Graves Endowment Fund on the basis of the ratio of money raised to the department's equota. Thanks largely to the effective local campaign put on by Carl A. Johnson Post of Grand Rapids, co-operating with the Grand Rapids Herald, which netted \$1,250, the Wolverine Legion has gone nearly a quarter of the way toward raising its whole total. Cuba is the actual leader, however, with a percentage of 1.121—12 percent over its quota—and Mexico also stands high with .207. The standing of departments in the continental United States as this issue went to press was as follows this issue went to press was as follows (figures show percent raised toward state quota):

Michigan	.220	D. C	.025
Virginia	.181	Utah	.024
Arizona	.123	Kansas	.023
Wyoming	.101	Wisconsin	.022
Mississippi	.100		.022
		Arkansas	
Missouri	.087	Ohio	.020
New Mexico	.086	Florida	.019
Kentucky	.073	Oklahoma	.018
Colorado	.066	New Jersey .	.017
Pennsylvania.	.056	N. Dakota	.016
N. Hampshire	.049		
		Texas	.016
W. Virginia	.042	Connecticut .	.016
Tennessee	.039	Massachusetts	.014
Delaware	.037	Minnesota	.013
Idaho	.035	Georgia	.013
New York	.035	Washington .	.013
		Tablington .	
Indiana	.034	Iowa	.012
California	.034	Maryland	.010
Oregon	.032	Maine	.009
Montana	.032	Rhode Island	.006
Illinois	.031	Alabama	.005
S. Dakota	.028	N. Carolina	.004
Nebraska	.027	Vermont	.002
South C	Carolin	na	

THE American Legion Graves Endowment Fund will be invested in perpetuity and the income used annually to provide decorations for the graves of 32,000 American soldiers and sailors whose bodies will forever lie overseas. At least \$100,000 is needed-\$200,000 can well be usedto increase the principal of this fund the nucleus of which is a million francs now on deposit in France.

tributions took a spurt which convinced those who have been following the progress of the fund that a flood of dona-tions was getting ready to descend on the National Treasurer's office.

ceived, against average daily receipts of \$450 during the previous week, and it was believed at that time that this four-figure mark for a single day would itself be beaten almost as soon as it was cetablished. as it was established. The week of April 9th had already shown a steady officials in charge of the fund realize, however, that unremitting effort by the Legion all over the country is necessary if the fund is to reach the desired total by Memorial Day, now less than four weeks distant four weeks distant.

A gratifying feature of the latest contributions is the fact that Legion posts and Auxiliary units are being represented in steadily increasing numbers and by impressive contributions. This is definite proof that posts and units are organizing local campaigns reaching not only their own members but their townspeople as well.

Here are a few typical letters from among the hundreds that have been approximated to the control of the contro

among the hundreds that have been re-ceived by the National Treasurer's office accompanying contributions to

the graves fund:

Enclosed please find my check as a contribution to the Graves Endowment Fund. My son, Cpl. John Daniel Stark, paid the supreme sacrifice on July 19, 1918, and is buried in the American cemetery of Suresnes, Grave No. 29, Row 8, Block B. I thank The American Legion for the opportunity of contributing toward this unselfish cause .- Mrs. Mabel D. Stark, West Pittston, Pa.

Enclosed find my check for the Graves Endowment Fund. I was senior chaplain of the 88th Division in the A. E. F. and helped bury hundreds of men. I am glad to aid in caring for the graves of our comrades who sleep over yonder. This movement on the part of the Legion is magnificent.-HARRY BURTON BOYD, Erie, Pa.

My son was killed in action on November 10, 1918. He was a member of the Fifth Regiment of Marines—51st Co., 2d Bn.—and is buried in Sedan. We must trust to others to do the placing of flowers on our flear boy's grave.-MRS. MINNIE S. LUSADER, Covington, Ind.

We enclose herewith check for \$2 sent at the request of John A. Noland, 6753, an inmate of this institution, as a donation to the endowment fund for flowers for graves of American soldiers overseas.-J. J. Sul-LIVAN, Warden, Minnesota State Prison.

I have a boy over there somewhere. They know just when and how he was killed, but his grave has not been found. Perhaps the poppies will bloom on his grave. I want to help get flowers for the cthers.—A Mother, McCook, Neb.

This week's list of one-dollar-or-over contributors to the Graves Endowment On Fund is printed on page 24.



On-the-spot service in a Legion department headquarters: T. J. O'Reilly, Indiana department service officer (standing at right), and Frank H. Henley, Indiana department ment adjutant (seated at right), attending to the claims of a group of disabled veterans

The Helping Hand of the Legion

ByStafford King

Adjutant, Department of Minnesota. The American Legion .

E came to the big city from his home village, some hundred and fifty miles away, and brought with him the discharge papers that proclaimed him a one-time member in good standing of the A. E. F. He left behind him a wife and two-year-old daughter and he looked forward to finding, for their sakes, profitable and interesting em-

Readers of Horatio Alger would be familiar with a detailed narrative, were First, high hope; then uncertainty; then fear. It was odd, but true, that nobody wanted the boy's services. He scanned want ads feverishly and dashed frantically to various parts of the city. frantically to various parts of the city. He took to slinking in and out of the cheap hotel that he had made his headquarters. He was broke.

It was at about this point, invariably, that Alger's heroes struck pay dirt. An amiable horse, you remember, would obligingly run away with the daughter of the local merchant prince.

(Merchant prince's daughters drove horses when Alger's lads flourished.) Even more obligingly, the horse would pick a route that crossed the hero's path. The hero then would do his part and the merchant prince and eventu-

ally his lovely daughter would round out the picture of happiness.

But we are telling the true story of a World War veteran. The touring cars that dashed across his path, sometimes awardly handled by a fixed to the story. times expertly handled by profiteers' daughters, afforded him no opportunity for heroics. There were no maidens whose distress was obvious, and had there been the boy wouldn't have had the stamina to raise a finger in their behalf. For he had but sketchily participated in the world's last nine meals

-the nine meals that William Jennings Bryan declares make the difference between a burglar and a gentleman.

But Fate did have something in store for the boy. An affable stranger, who had smiled at him several times about the hotel lobby, now engaged him in conversation. When the boy admitted he was hungry the stranger, laughing at protest, bought a bountiful dinner. Then he paid the boy's hotel bill and slipped him a ten spot to tide him over for a day or two. He suggested that the boy work for him; the work was the boy work for him; the work was to be easy—selling jewelry to small merchants, and pawning it. The boy, suspecting there was some catch in it, but too desperate to hunt for trouble, accepted the stranger's offer.

He peddled the jewelry for three weeks and all the time his suspicions grow until at last he was quite contain.

grew, until at last he was quite certain he was being made the fence of a gang of thieves. In his sudden fear he bought a ticket for his home village and left the jewelry and money with the hotel clerk, to be turned over to the stranger. He went to his room to pack. A knock interrupted him. Two plainclothes men had called. The gang was in the clutches of the law. They took the boy to headquarters and stripped him of all his possessions.

At the trial the stranger, still affable, turned state's evidence. He threw the blame on the boy and the boy was found guilty and stood before the judge for sentence. He told the judge he was an ex-soldier, wounded, honorably discharged, and the judge, moved to lenience, told the detectives who had made ency, told the detectives who had made the arrest to verify the boy's story. Instead of producing the boy's papers they withheld them and reported to the judge that the boy had lied. He was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. Some two weeks after he began serving his sentence the boy's wife received his papers intact from the detectives.

There was, and is, a strong Legion post in the boy's home village. The post had an active service officer, appointed to handle all cases of all veterans, and to him the boy's wife took her story. The post service officer acted at once. He got a letter through to the boy in prison, and learned his story. He corresponded with the young attorney the court had assigned to the boy's defense, and the attorney, also a Legion man, related how the plea for clemency had failed because the boy's army service could not be proved. The post authorized its service officer to take a trip to the city, where he gathered the missing details and laid the results of his findings before the Legion welfare committee of the city, with a request for quick action.

request for quick action.

The welfare committee checked the facts and asked the Legion service officer of that State to interview the proper authorities with a view to obtaining the boy's release. The trial judge, given the truth, signed a letter asking clemency. Finally the boy was released in the custody of his local Legion post, and a stinging letter of rebuke was sent to the city police comrebuke was sent to the city police com-missioner for transmittal to the two detectives. The veteran is making the grade now and the chances are that he will keep it up.

The foregoing story is true and is a fair illustration of the benefits of a strong service organization within each Legion department. The benefits accrue not so much to the Legion as to all veterans, Legion men or not. To my mind we can find no more worthy work

(Continued on page 19)

EDITORIAL



Not a Perfunctory Tribute

Out of the depths of his own sorrow, Abraham Lincoln composed an immortal address at Gettysburg more than half a century ago. He expressed sublimely the feeling of gratitude to our dead of the Civil War which was in every American heart. Whenever the words of Lincoln are forgotten, whenever emotions grow cold in the recollection of the sacrifices of the dead, national dissolution approaches.

As The American Legion raises an Endowment Fund of from \$100,000 to \$200,000 for perpetual remembrance of our dead of the World War buried in the cemeteries of Europe, the spirit of Lincoln is once more awakened. On another page are reproduced letters from those who have considered it a proud privilege to add their contributions to that fund. These letters are only a few of the hundreds which are coming in from all parts of the United States. As Memorial Day draws nearer, the nation's conscience is responding more and more fully to the Legion's appeal for those who died.

It is not fitting that anyone should be unduly urged to contribute to this cause. There are 32,000 of our dead abroad. We owe to them eternal gratitude and lasting honor. Every American has a conscience. Legionnaires and non-Legionnaires alike must feel in their hearts the desire of duty above and beyond any mere reaction to pay a perfunctory tribute to our departed comrades. The Graves Endowment Fund is to remain for all time a true expression of American feeling—the spontaneous expression of the nation's gratitude. How fully shall that gratitude be expressed?

Mr. Hohenzollern Entertains

SOMEONE named George Sylvester Viereck recently visited Wilhelm Hohenzollern in Holland. Mr. Viereck was given a rousing welcome. On his return to this country he said:

I had a personal interview with the former Kaiser at Doorn. I found him in the best of health and capable of taking up the duties of emperor should such an occasion arise. I don't know whether he entertains such hopes; that is, I do know, but I can't say.

We can't say, either; but we can guess.

A Bankrupt Paradise

WHEN the Kuzbas colonists set out months ago to found a twentieth-century Utopia in the friendly heart of Soviet Russia, they little dreamed that not only was the colony itself to prove a fizzle of the first water, but that within a little time, disillusioned and disgusted, the repatriated colonizers would be appealing for justice in a "capitalistic" American court.

Two months ago the Weekly published a graphic five-part account of the experiences of one member of the Kuzbas group—an A. E. F. veteran who had found difficulty in getting back to normal here and who joined the enterprise partly from a thirst for adventure, partly because he did not believe he could possibly fare worse in Russia than he was already faring in an America suffering from postwar deflation. He found that he could. Joining the enterprise in a decidedly deflated state himself, he did not have to risk any money on it, and he emerged richer in experience (though he did not enjoy the experience while he was getting it) without being any poorer in pocket.

But many of the Kuzbas group—companions of Edmund J. Maguire, author of the articles published in the Weekly,

and many of them mentioned by name in his narrative—did put money into the enterprise, and while they too are richer in experience, they do not regard this form of wealth as adequate compensation. Hence the appeal to the courts of bourgeois, magnate-ridden America; hence the charges of grand larceny in having made alleged false representations about Russia preferred against nine of the promoters of the Kuzbas expedition.

Thomas B. Doyle, who with his wife and two children joined the Kuzbas party, an accuser of the indicted promoters—Doyle figured in the Weekly's series—reports that workers in Russia have no voice in the government and that conditions there are quite otherwise than they were painted by the Kuzbas organizers. And Otto W. Raes and his wife, who joined the party after living in America twenty years, declared that they had to share their single room at Kemerova with a family of three and to subsist on pork, beans, rye bread, coffee (occasionally), a little condensed milk, and canned potatoes—from America.

Most earthly paradises, whether in Russia or the South Seas, prove to be in the distance-lends-enchantment class. The Kuzbas Utopia must rank as a pre-eminent example. The accuracy of Mr. Maguire's account in the Weekly is more than borne out by the sworn testimony of the disillusioned colonists—in fact, he plainly understated rather than overstated the folly and hardships of the adventure. There may be, somewhere on the earth, an ideal spot for a modern Utopia, but Russia seems to be about the last place for it.

When You Think of Vacation

THE training camp season is here and the War Department expects to see 300,000 young men under canvas during the summer absorbing instruction in the rudiments of military life, and incidentally getting the most healthful and wholesome vacation a man well could want. It is regrettable that a few people inveigh against these civilian training camps and see in them the unrighteous development of a militaristic spirit—it is regrettable, but it is not surprising. If memory serves, there were people who had the same things to say about the camps that were initiated in 1915 by General Leonard Wood.

The War Department keeps pretty close tab on the nation's resources in experienced man-power for use in event of emergency. That is the War Department's job. By the end of 1925, it is figured, barely one-fifth of those who bore arms in '17 and '18 will be physically fit to serve again. That means about a million men available who have had war experience—not a million trained men, in any sense of the word. The average veteran has only to try a week or so in a training camp to convince himself of the physical deterioration the years have brought upon him since he left the service and of how the knowledge of things that were second nature to every soldier or sailor have almost eluded him entirely.

Officials do not expect a high percentage of World War men in this summer's camps, though it is certain that both the country and the individuals would benefit—and the individual would benefit most—if the vets should sling the old pack again and turn out in numbers—in large numbers. Buddy, why not try it?

Run Him for Congress

A TRAVELER is returning from the interior of Asia with a number of a newly-discovered mountain tribe which has only five hundred words in its entire vocabulary.

Baltimore bootleggers have formed an association. The insignia of the new fraternity will probably be worn on the hip.

.96 96 96

The British cruiser *Curaçoa* is standing by in Turkish waters, and it is the opinion of Private Cognac Lew Owen, late 165th Infantry, that the twin French destroyers *Vin Rouge* and *Vin Blanc* must be hovering around just over the horizon.

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What the Legion Stands For



For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.



-Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion

The American Legion Believes That—

THE disabled of the World War should be properly cared for by the Government. Their compensation should be adequate and should be paid promptly. Claims should be acted upon with a minimum of red tape. The hospital treatment accorded veterans should be of the best; existing hospitals should be improved; new hospitals should be built, especially those necessary to meet the need of neuro-psychiatric patients. Vocational training should be such as to enable disabled veterans to become useful, self-sustaining citizens. Those taking training in agriculture should be aided in establishing themselves on farms. Training should be extended to widows and dependents of men who died in the war.

By virtue of the obligation of the nation to those who, through their participation in the war, incurred a great economic handicap, the Government should act favorably on the vitally important matter of adjusted compensa-

tion.

Every possible effort should be made to make, and keep, this country American, and the doctrines of communists, radical internationalists and other similar dangerous groups should be combatted. Educational facilities should be improved, special emphasis being placed on patriotism; and misleading statements of any sort in our text-books should be eliminated. The literacy test for admission to citizenship should be made compulsory; and, until a practical plan for the protection of the na-tion against the menace of unassim-ilated aliens has been put into effect, all immigration should be prohibited. Constitutional provisions for the deportation of undesirable aliens should be enforced. The efforts of certain foreign powers to retain citizenship, military or other powers over American citizens of foreign birth or descent should be opposed. So long as immigration continues, the laws governing it should be properly enforced; and those who come to America should be so dealt with that they may be enabled to find those conditions under which they can become good. prosperous citizens. athletics and physical education in the schools should be encouraged in order that higher standards of citizenship and

the country's defense may be insured. Wholesome community activities should be encouraged. In promoting patriotic standards, the proper observance of Memorial Day—as a day devoted to the memory of those who have died—should be adhered to.

An international court to outlaw war should be established; and upon the assumption by such a court of its full police powers, the nations of the world should proceed as rapidly as possible to complete disarmament. Until such a court becomes a reality, no trade should be carried on with a power guilty of maintaining armies for purposes of aggression. Treaties should be executed in good faith; and all international agreements should be open and above-

board, with full publicity.

Until such time as disarmament becomes an actuality, adequate steps should be taken for the proper defense of this country on land and sea and in the air. The Army, Navy, National Guard, Organized Reserve and Marine Corps should all be given the fullest support and kept in a state of efficiency, and the progress of aviation should be furthered in every possible way. The provisions of the National Defense Act of June 4, 1920, as amended, should be put into effect; we should maintain a naval strength which does not fall below that permitted us under the terms of the so-called 5-5-3 ratio agreed on at the Conference on Armament Limitation. There should be enacted a graded retirement law which will provide for the enlisted men of the Army, after 16, 20 or 25 years of honorable service. The Bursum bill (Senate 1565), providing retirement for disabled emergency army officers, should be passed. In keeping our Navy adequate it would be wise to retain the present strength of the student body at the Naval Academy; to charter naval auxiliary vessels, where possible, from well establish lished American merchant lines: to supply destroyers to the Naval Reserve for training; to concentrate all combat vessels in one fleet at the most economical point for purposes of better training and more economical administration; to place a naval base (for which Congress should make an appropria-tion) at Alameda, California, and start work upon it as soon as possible; to co-operate, whenever practicable, with

our merchant marine.

In order that profiteering and its attendant evils may be prevented in the event of another war, Congress should enact a universal service law in which provision is made for the drafting of labor, capital and manufacturing facilities, as well as combatants, in time of emergency.

Those believed to be guilty of profiteering at the expense of the Government during the war should be brought to justice. All slackers now in Federal employ should be dismissed and prosecuted. A general amnesty should not be granted to those prisoners who committed treasonable offenses during the war.

Congress should facilitate the efforts of this country to maintain an efficient merchant marine, by subsidy if necessary. American ships should, wherever practicable, be American-manned and American-officered; and, when possible, the Shipping Board should choose its officers and men from American applicants.

Our swamp and arid lands should be reclaimed, and ex-service men should be given preferential rights in settle-

All legislation affecting veterans of the World War should be referred to special standing committee in each branch of Congress.

Those who died in the World War should be honored by the erection of a memorial in Arlington Cemetery.

Congress should appropriate the sum necessary for the erection of a modern archives building to safeguard the war records now kept in old, inflammable buildings.

All service men who held War Risk Insurance policies during the war should now hold government insurance policies, and special efforts should be made to encourage those whose insurance has lapsed to reinstate their policies.

The war trophies captured by our forces during the war should be distributed throughout the country as soon as practicable, and our battlefields in France should be marked for the benefit of posterity.

Louder, Please!

By Wallgren





Your Home Town

The Social Value of Play



I T has taken society a long time to appreciate the social value of play. Society has always believed good health to be among the most desirable possessions of mankind, but only lately has it begun to appreciate how large a factor in producing good health is the factor of legitimate, healthy play. Society has professed to recognize the pursuit of happiness as a fundamental human right, but only lately has it begun to realize the community's duty to supply opportunities for satisfying the normal craving of children for interesting play, and of adults in their leisure hours for happy, carefree sport and entertainment. Monotony is a well-known breeder of discontent. The great mass of mankind works at more or less monotonous jobs; the need of play in some form is becoming more and more evident if we are to maintain a happy mental balance and a cheerful outlook

Play has another important social value. At a very early age, and hence in the most impressionable period of childhood, through an almost infinite variety of games it teaches the embryo citizen the value of team-work, of self-control, of obedience to law. It teaches him the art of getting on with other people, and, when occasion calls for it, the subordinating of his individual self for the sake of the whole—the very essence of good citizenship and true patriotism.

An outstanding instance of the value our big cities are coming to place on organized recreation is the recent bond issue of \$3,800,000 for recreation purposes by the city of St. Louis. Two-thirds of this is for new playgrounds, open spaces and pools, with the principle thoroughly understood that the location of a substantial portion is to be

location of a substantial portion is to be within the poorer neighborhoods. An interesting test had been made in St. Louis of the effectiveness of playgrounds in reducing juvenile delinquency. A comparison of the number of juvenile delinquents in the effective area of every playground in 1921 with the number in the same area in 1917 showed a decrease of fifty percent. The 1921 figures for the area affected by four playground in 1918 show in every case a reduction of juvenile delinquency of seventy-five percent under the record for the same area in 1917, before the playgrounds were developed. A similar test made a number of years ago in Chicago proved a definitely

By Harold S. Buttenheim Editor, The American City Magazine

traceable relationship between playgrounds and reduced juvenile delinquency.

Passaic, New Jersey, a city of about 64,000 population, has had summer playgrounds since 1909, but last year a campaign was started for a year-round program. The Chamber of Commerce combined with the municipal authorities to provide an additional budget, and a superintendent of recreation was employed. It is said that the judge of the juvenile court of this city is seriously considering closing the court because the boys who used to keep him busy are themselves so busy at the recreational hall that they don't have time to get into trouble.

There has been, and still is, a pretty general feeling that because children play instinctively they do not need assistance from organizers or supervisors of play, but experience is daily proving that by far the best results from playgrounds are obtained from those employing trained supervisors. The employment of a supervisor does not mean that the liberty of the children is unduly restricted. Direction, not restraint, is the object of the supervisor. The small town has been far more difficult to convert to this idea of the value of supervised play than the big city. Surrounded by open spaces, its citizens haven't seen much use in playgrounds, but the small towns, too, are falling into line. LeRoy, New York, with a population of approximately 4,000, has a municipal appropriation of \$3,500 and a year-round worker to organize and

administer a community-wide program.

In the strictly rural communities the schools are trying to furnish play facilities and organize games and sports. An interesting example of the value of supervised play in a rural school is given in an article in the *Pictorial Review* by Helen Southwick, called "A Play of the Play for Organized Play"

supervised play in a Tural school is given in an article in the Pictorial Review by Helen Southwick, called "A Plea for Organized Play."

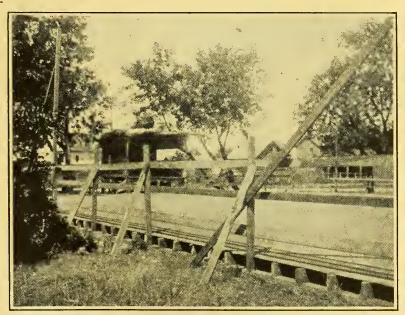
"Some teacher," she writes, "had bought them (the pupils) a basket ball. Now there are about fifty games that may be played with a basket ball, but this ball served only as something to squabble over. There were twenty fights over that ball for every game. The school board was somewhat discouraged. Having supplied the children with teeters and swings and turning bars and a basket ball, they had considered the playground problem disposed of for all time—and prepared for a peaceful term of school. Naturally it was disheartening to discover that bullying, tale-bearing, smoking, and vile practical jokes continued to be the established order of things.

"At this juncture they happened to

"At this juncture they happened to secure a teacher who, though deficient in other ways, was a genuine playground enthusiast. It was heavy going at first. When a game was proposed half the recess period was consumed in choosing sides, as everybody wanted the best positions. Team-work was unheard of, and the loser invariably accused the winner of cheating. In six months, however, those same boys and girls knew thirty new games and were proud of it. What is better, they played them on their own initiative. They had learned to choose sides without waste of time and to play the game like sportsmen. The whiner was an object of ridicule. They had become self-starters."

As indicating the growth of the play-ground movement, the Playground and Recreation Association of America reports 505 communities as having 4,601 recreation centers under paid leadership in 1922 and a total reported number of 10,967 trained workers.

"Increased taxation" is the cry that is pretty sure to be raised these days when a municipal improvement meaning an appropriation is agitated. Particularly is this the case with a new project not generally conceded to be necessary. Many a wide-awake community has overcome this difficulty by constructing its first playground with volunteer help. Municipal support usually follows,



St. Joseph (Minn.) Post of the Legion thinks grown-ups ought to have their community playground too. Hence this outdoor dance floor, the post's contribution to the town's welfare. Expenses are met by charging a small admission fee



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Keeping Step with the Legion

Address all communications to this department to The Step Keeper, National Headquarters Bureau, The American Legion Weekly, Indianapolis, Indiana

A Memorial Program

HERE'S a communication about Memorial Day that has the signature of the Legion's National Director of Americanism. He offers the following suggestions for Memorial Day programs for posts:

A fitting and proper program should be worked out by Legion posts for services on this day. (See Memorial Day Services No. 1 in the Manual of Ceremonies, page 24; also Memorial Day Services No. 2, Manual of Ceremonies, page 27.)

Where ceremonies are held only at the cemetery instead of the post headquarters or hall, it is suggested that Memorial Day Services No. 1 should be amalgamated with Memorial Day Services No. 2, as follows:

a. Invocation by Chaplain.

b. Brief introduction of Memorial Day Speaker by Post Commander.

c. Memorial Day Address. d. Salute to the dead by the firing squadron (all heads will be bowed in silent prayer for thirty seconds during this salute).

e. Taps.

In a great many communities there will be no organized effort to place-flags on the graves of buddies or veterans of all American wars. It is the duty of Legion posts to see that flags are placed on graves of all veterans of American wars.

The Glorious Fourth

I N lieu of specific plans for all posts for Fourth of July celebrations this year, the Step Keeper cast about for a generalized plan of celebration. It was a hard job. Lack of space prevented using some of the letters which came in telling how posts, big and little, celebrated last year, and lack of space also prevented use of numerous clippings on hand telling what was done last year or will be done this year. But then appeared a clipping from the Seattle Times which offered a good start. Here's a part of the description it offers of the method by which Rainier Noble Post will celebrate:

The Legionnaires have initiated a movement to make this year's observance of Independence Day a great civic celebration in which every one in the city will be asked to participate.

According to plans proposed, the celebration will be divided into three parts. The festivities will open with a street parade in the morning with army and navy units, veterans' organizations, civic and business clubs, fraternal organizations and representatives of city, county and state govern-mental departments in line.

The parade will be followed by a patriotic demonstration to be held in some public place. It is planned to have this meeting not only commemorate the historical significance of the nation's independence, but also to attest the regeneration of the Seattle spirit by having the people of the city pledge anew their faith in the future opportunities of Seattle.

The third event in the proposed program will be a carnival and fireworks display which will be held in the university stadium in the evening with special features ar-

ranged by fraternal and patriotic organizations of the city.

The above is offered not as the perfect program (although it may be that for all the Step Keeper knows) but as a sample on which a post might work. Anybody else got a good idea for the Fourth?

For instance, what's the dope on Americanization ceremonies, or natu-ralization ceremonies? The custom of holding naturalization exercises for new citizens on the Fourth is growing. Many posts used the Fourth for this kind of observance last year. They probably will try it again this year.

A Life-Long Hitch

DAIL B. JOHNSTON, past com-mander of Lester White Post, Livingston Manor, New York, has ideas about life memberships in the Legion that have proved practicable because they have worked out in other organizations. In response to the Step Keeper's request for information on the subject he submitted the following:

Speaking about life membership, I hold life membership in the Masons and the Elks. The Elks lodge where I belong, Port Jervis No. 645, gives a life membership to a brother in good standing, who has been in five years, for one hundred dollars.

Recently the young fellows got together, and we put through a life membership for our Masonic Lodge, No. 791, at seventyfive dollars. The dues are four dollars a The seventy-five dollars placed in a sinking fund at six percent would draw four dollars and twenty cents, taking care of the brother's dues, and when the brother goes West the lodge is the win-

If a fellow takes a life membership out in his young, productive years, he does not have to worry about being dumped

in his old age.

It would be my suggestion to have members pay the life membership to National Headquarters, which could place it in a sinking fund, and have headquarters remit back to the post.

Anybody else got a thought on this subject? Forum's still open, you know.

Those Amusement Taxes

HAD any inquiries from tax collect-ors about whether your post owed the Government amusement taxes? Some posts have, and they've written the S. K. asking him all about it. In reply here's an authoritative version from E. W. Chatterton, deputy commissioner in the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue at Dubuque, Iowa:

You are advised that it has been held by this office (March 8, 1920), that The American Legion is a national civic organization not organized for profit but operated exclusively for the promotion of social and public welfare. As the separate posts are component parts of the national organization having identical objects and purposes, it follows that they are civic organizations of a similar nature. As one of such organizations, the post you mention is exempt from taxation under the provisions of Section 231 (8) of the Revenue Act of 1921 and will not be required to file returns of income.

You are further informed that contributions made to The American Legion subsequent to December 31, 1920, are deductible in the individual returns of the donors in the manner and to the extent specifically provided in Section 214 (a) (11) of the Revenue Act of 1921.

A Help to the Town

IF a town ever wants a favor from the United States it will do well to keep on good terms with its Legion post. At least, that seems to be the moral to be drawn from a letter just received from James K. Jachles, past commander of Colleton County Post of Walterboro, South Carolina. It was the Legion post that enabled the Colleton County Fairs of 1921 and 1922 to get by. Here's what Mr. Jachles has to say:

In the fall of 1921 the county fair association decided to turn over one day of the fair to the local post of the Legion. It was the first time any fair association in the State of South Carolina had done such a thing and we were stumped, temporarily. We knew we must have music for our parade, but what to do? We wired Secretary Denby, and the outcome of the wire was a radiogram ordering the band of the destroyer force at Charleston for duty at Walterboro, and with it came a rear-admiral and his aide, not to mention a major of Infantry and the Legion de-partment commander, all of whom gave good talks and the band good music. bandsmen liked it so well that we had to improvise a detail of M. P.'s to get them back on the train. The fair was a great success. Brigadier General Cole of Paris Island sent the Marine Band, over forty strong, their travel orders to be signed when the post was through with their services. The fair association, in addition to reaping the benefit of the largest crowds of the two years on the two "Legion Days," cleared itself of its indebtedness.

I have left out minor details from the above, but any enterprising adjutant can supply them from his imagination.

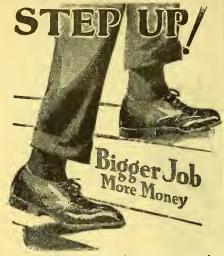
Getting Support

QUOTING from Stanley E. Nelson, adjutant of Argonne Post, Adrian, Minnesota:

On March 19th we entertained the business men of Adrian at a smoker and luncheon. We felt it necessary to have the business men with the Legion and we felt that by giving them a little feed they would feel warmer toward us. We have some people in our town, such as are in every town, that needed talking to, and the business men are in the right place to help the Legion talk. All reported a good time at our luncheon. It doesn't hurt any post to spend a little money on a gathering like this because it will be repaid many times.

That strikes the mind as an idea that might have many ramifications. Adrian Legionnaires wanted support from non-members and seem to have got what they went after. Any other posts adopted this or other stunts to get the substantial older people of Hometown interested in Legionism?





"I have made another step up and am now advertising manager of the Grand Junction (Colorado) News, writes an enthusiastic United Y. M. C. A. Schools' student.

Two years ago he began devoting evening hours to the study of a United Y. M. C. A. Schools' correspondence course. He was not depending on pull or luck to get ahead. He believed that when he was qualified for a bigger job, the opportunity would come to "step up.

This Colorado student's letter is a fair specimen of hundreds that come to us.

It's not difficult to "step up" if you have ambition and the kind of training employers want. Will you let us tell you how you can move upward steadily by simply making use of your spare hours?

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BURSTS AND

Payment is made for material for this digrattment. Unavailable manuscript returned only when accompanied by stamped enviloge. Address 627 West 43d St., New York City

Uninjured

The toughest customer in Bloody Gulch had been hurled from an automobile into a ditch and lay unconscious for a couple of hours. He came to life to find the face of a friend bending anxiously over him.

"Are you hurt, old man?" gasped the friend.
"Not a bit," replied the hard guy, "only a little spill. But say, Bill, will you help me pull this bone back into my sleeve?"

Error in Judgment

Little Bobby, who had been playing with a neigh-bor's daughter, came sob-bing to his mother one day and declared that his play-

mate had pulled his hair.
"Why, Bobbie," his
mother gasped. "I thought she was such a nice little girl that she would never do a thing like that."

"So did I," wailed Bobby.
"That's why I kicked her."

Proof Enough

The track was muddy and Jones had received a tip to bet his last penny on Flying Ace. It appears that Flying Ace was a wonderful mud horse and would win in a walk.

mud horse and would win in a walk.

The next day found Jones dead broke.

Meeting his tipster, he remarked:

"That was a fine piece of dope you handed me yesterday! That dog came in twelfth! I thought you said he was a great mud horse."

"That's just it," explained the smooth tipster. "That horse likes the mud so much that he just dotes on having all the other horses kick it in his face."

Mother Dear

"Mother, may I go out to wed?" "Yes, my darling daughter; But when you shoot him, kill him dead, Like every good wife oughter."

Admission

"Let me have five pounds of sugar."
"Will you take it with you or shall I send it?"

"Hm-m-m. Guess I'll take it if it isn't

too heavy."
"Oh, it won't be heavy—only weigh three or four pounds."

Don't Tell the Landlord

Mrs. Van Flatte: "Henry, we really must have more room to live in. Don't you think we could get a larger apartment?" Henry: "Wait a while, can't you? Pretty soon we'll be taking off our winter underwear."

Roll 'Em

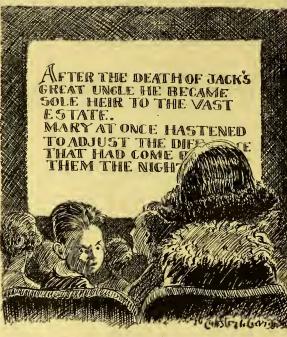
"I guess I've sold more books in my day than Harold Bell Wright," remarked the cigar salesman.

"Books?"

"Yes; I've sold thousands and thousands of copies of that snappy little French volume entitled 'Riz la Croix.'"

When Duty Calls

A seat behind a post in Row Z at the theatre was the best the buck private on



"Aw, gee whiz! I thought this was a picture show."

leave could get. He considered it frowningly for a moment and then started hiking down the aisle.

"Hey!" yelled an usher. "Where you going?"

The buck scowled ferociously.
"Where all good soldiers go," he retorted appily. "To the front." snappily.

Some Should

Fashion decrees a longer skirt. Will lovely women wear it? A maiden with a shapely calf Will doubtless grin and bare it.

The Drawback

Henry was just out after serving a three-months' sentence in jail.
"Well, how did you like it?" asked a

friend. "Oh. "Oh, pretty good," replied Henry. "It ain't much hard, but it's mighty constant."

Modernity

Cousin Ethel: "Well, what do you think of your new son-in-law?"

The Bereaved Parent: "I don't know yet. I only saw him once for a few minutes when Molly didn't happen to be ready when he honked, and then he didn't take his goggles off."

Fast Work

I married her one summer morn, She was a beauty of the screen. At 6 p. m. I found her gone— You see, she was a movie queen.

Unofficial Medical Guide

C. C. SICKNESS: The attacks of C. C. sickness come on at sick call and last until the patient is relieved with two of the little O. D. pellets which he invariably throws away. The patient is likely to be rather vague in his recital of his ills, complaining of shout conventions for the contraction of the contractions of the c plaining of about everything from an ache in his toe to a pain in his liver. No cause for such misery is ever found by the ex-amining doctor and it is thus branded as

an imaginary illness, somewhat milder than stallitis. Sick call's occurring at the same time as fatigue and usually lasting until after drill call enables the alling one to miss about one hour's work. This disto miss about one hour's work. This disease should be checked while in the acute stages lest it become chronic or develop into stallitis. An extra large dose of K. P. has been known to cure the most stubborn cases in one treatment. The disease is never found in camps where the time for sick call has been changed to a period allotted the bucks for bunk fatigue.

Preferred

Kate is fair and debonnaire,
And Jane's good company,
And Mamie is happy and always quite happy, But Sally's the girl for me.

For Kate, so fair, will give you the air
At half past ten on the dot,
And Jane and Mame are much the same,
But Sally's the pick of the lot.

The other three say, "G'bye" and flee,
But Sally's a bit all right,
For when you leave, she tugs at your sleeve

whole . . . hour . . . to . . . say
G O O D N I G H T!
GEORGE A. PARAVICINI.

Like That

"When Ah had de influendways Ah had a chill dat was so cold dat Ah froze all de waterpipes in de horsepittle."
"Ain't nothin'. When Ah had de fever mah mouth done melted de doctah's thumometah an' Ah had to wear asbestos pajamjams to keep from bu'nin' de sheets."

Reassuring

It was the nervous lady's first trip in a plane, and she was visibly perturbed.
"Wh-wh-what if the plane should crash?"

she stammered, terrified.
"Don't let that worry you, ma'am," counselled the pilot reassuringly. "We always keep an extra one in the hangar for emergencies like that."

Silly!

"I hear Bill is going to take up a voca-

tional training course."
"Bill? Why, that darned fool couldn't learn to sing in a hundred years."

A Discourager

Mrs. Blitz: "Can the little Doolittle boy walk yet?"

Mrs. Glicksters: "No. Just as he was starting to learn his rich grandfather gave him an auto."

Answered Prayer

"What's Deacon Boggs looking so glum

"He prayed to the Lord to deliver him from temptation when he went to the city, and the Lord did."

International

A question that's perplexed us, As, no doubt, it has you too, Is why they put in garlic And then call it "Irish stew"?

Such Is the Case

History Teacher: "When was tn Whisky Rebellion?" Bootlegger's Little Boy: "Was? Is!" the

Life's Minor Tragedies

The boy jumped on the burning deck His temper waxing hot, For when he passed three openers cold No one did bust the pot.

Punetuated

North: "Does Dobbs' new play end happily?"
West: "Yes, it does end, happily."



"You can buy Topkis for only a dollar!"

"T DIDN'Tpick Topkis by the label at first. I chose it because it was the best-looking athletic underwear I saw.

"The salesman had to say 'One Dollar' a couple of times before I grasped the idea that it was the regular price.

You can bet I pick the Topkis label now!"

Topkis is made of better material than most athletic underwear that costs much more. Best nainsook and other high-grade fabrics.

Real fit, too! Man-size arm-

holes; longer, wider legs; roomy all over. Full size guaranteed. Pre-shrunk.

And how it does wear!

That's what One Dollar buys in the Topkis Men's Athletic Union Suit. No good dealer will ask more-most will admit it's worth more.

Men's Shirts and Drawers, 75c a garment; Boys' Union Suits, Girls' Bloomer Union Suits, and Children's Waist Union Suits, 75c.

In Canada, Men's Union Suits, \$1.50.

Write for new booklet, chock full of "inside stuff" on underwear. It's free.

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Help Your Disabled Comrade

MISS M. FAYE ELDER, secretary of the Butler County Chapter of the American Red Cross, El Dorado, Kansas, has the following to say about the failure of some veterans to help disabled comrades in establishing their claims against the Government:

"Will you please get the idea across to service men that they owe it to their disabled buddies to assist them by preparing affidavits which they are asked for, or at least by replying to the letters giving the reasons why the affidavits are not made out. In checking through Red Cross letters sent out on behalf of disabled men with claims, I find I have not received replies to more than one third. This percentage does not include letters returned by the post office as unclaimed. I am sorry to say that a number of posts have failed to reply to our letters. We have a high average of results, but many a man has made it harder for us and for the disabled man by failing to reply to letters." man by failing to reply to letters.

Legion service officers and the National Service Division is similarly handicapped through the lack of co-operation, at times, of service men. requests merit special attention.

All queries aimed at locating former service men from whom statements are required to substantiate compensation claims should be sent to the Service Division, National Headquarters, The American Legion, Indianapolis, Indiana. Willing assistance will be given in finding men and, if necessary, re-quests will appear in the Weekly. The Service Division wants to hear from the following:

Comrades of LEROY SHADLEY, 106th Field Signal Corps. . . . Comrades of James R. Hilton, Hq. Co. 65th Mobilized C. A. C., who were with him at Auzeville, France, Nov., 1918. . . . SGT. MACSTAIR, who was hurt in accident at Camp Pike, Oct., 1918. . . . Comrades of BENNIE A. WAL-LACE, Pvt., Co. B, 66th Engrs., Montoir yards, Supply Base No. 1, St. Nazaire, France.... Comrades of ERNEST ROY LOW-ISH, Co. F, 313 Engrs., Camp Dodge, Sept. to Nov., 1917. . . . Comrades of Daniel O'Hare, Pvt., Sanitary Dept., 319th M. G. Bn. . . . Lt. Fox, M. C.; Dorothy Shun, A. N. C.; Miss Hummell, A. N. C.; Pvt. FAWCETT, all at Base Hospital, 101 St. Nazaire, France, Jan. and Feb., 1918. . . . Capt. FAIRWEATHER, M. C.; GERTRUDE WIL-LARD, A. N. C.; Wardmaster GROOVER; Cpl. WALTER C. SAW; CRIP HOLLAND; WALTER BAKER; Sgt. HARBISON, and patients NYE, HODGES and LAMBERT, all of Base Hospital 8, Savenay, France. . . . Men attached to 1st Bn., 315 Engr. Infirmary, Mulheim, Germany, Dec., 1918. . . . CLARENCE HOLMES and JOHN GARDNER and other comrades of Pvt. Jesse P. Clark at Camp School, Camp McClellan. . . . William R. Day, 2nd Lt., Co. C, 301st Sp. Tn. . . . James Murphy, 1st Lt., M. C., of Infirmary at Casino des Lilas Barracks, Bordeaux, and his successor.

When Gun Meets Gun

(Continued from page 7)

limbering from tractors. All four guns are on self-propelled mounts, vehicles which include carriage and power plant and have rolled along cross-country on their caterpillar tread. After a sur-prisingly short interval the guns are reported ready for action and, opportunity allowing, they are camouflaged.

The battery commander's detail has established an observation post near the front line, but is not depended upon entirely for conduct of fire. The bat-tery commander is not with this detail or with the guns. He is hovering above in an airplane, his regular station for registration and regulation of fire. radio his commands begin to come down to the executive in his dugout at the battery, and as fire is opened the B. C. aloft corrects the bursts with which he is ranging. Supplementary reports from the O.P. come by radio, too—no more wires to be shot out and fire crippled.

An ingenious range computer enables the executive to translate the observations he receives into firing data for the guns with great rapidity. He scribbles on a pad. At the emplacements of the four guns a telautograph, such as writes train arrivals at railroad information booths, inscribes the data before the eyes of each gun squad. The human error is reduced to a mini-

And now the 75's open up with volley after volley of high explosive, reaching out nearly nine miles for some enemy battery.

The nine-mile range mentioned, an increase of some 2,500 yards over that attained by the same calibre in the war, is an index of the progress made. That

increase for the smallest calibre of divisional field artillery has been carried all along the line of the heavies from all along the line of the heavies from the 75's 15,000 yards up until the heart of the enemy, which General Snow says a study of the last war showed to be about 12,000 yards back of the line, is menaced by a multitude of gunners. It may be assumed that a good deal of artillery attention formerly devoted to the infantry will in the next war strike beyond it at the foeman's heart. "Right after the Armistice," General Snow said, "I formed a board of ar-

tillerymen which was ordered abroad to study what had been done in the line of materiel and what was contemplated. That Calibre Board reported on the field artillery development of the whole world, on the improved and the ideal, and from the one toward the other we are working in our building program for the manufacture of new guns and

ammunition.

Based on the effective German 105 mm. howitzer, with its range of 10,700 yards, a new weapon is being developed with a 12,000-yard range. The range of the 155 mm. howitzer has been increased from 12,270 yards to 16,000. The field artillery is justly proud of the new 4.7 inch gun, which has a remarkable range of 20,000 yards, as opposed to a former 8,860, with its field of fire enlarged from three degrees traverse to either side to a 60 degree sweep. The 155 mm. gun now fires 25,000 yards; the old model accomplished only 17,000. The range of the eight-inch howitzer has been increased from 12,600 yards to 18,700. The greater range is attained by several of the calibres mentioned, in

spite of the use of heavier projectiles. The 240 mm. howitzer, the heaviest field artillery piece, was not completed for use in our service when the Armistice was signed. It is now available, however, and throws a 356-pound projectile 17,000 yards.

Improvements in details of gun carriages and limbers, in motorization and in adjustment of fire, have followed along. So has ammunition. Granted the prompt and large-scale manufacture from models developed, it is indeed a mighty auxiliary arm that the infantry may depend upon should "the war to end war" prove to have been a misnomer for the past conflict.

But that is in reference to equipment. Personnel is a different story. The number of the present force is inadequate, owing to the ruthless hacking-down of the Army by Congress, and it is this force which would be called upon to provide artillery training, now more specialized than ever, for new troops. Funds for the instruction of the reserve are very scant. And the demotion feature of reorganization, with its reduction of such old-time non-coms as have a rookie, has, in the words of General Snow, "rocked the Army from top to bottom."

The Helping Hand

(Continued from page 9)

to do than this giving a friendly hand to the ex-service man who is sick, or jobless, or otherwise in trouble.

The organization needs considerable planning and more hard work, each part dovetailing into the other and each succeeding if the whole is to succeed. The rock-bottom foundation, the absolutely essential keystone of the whole structure, is the post service officer. He and his follows are the sensitive fingers and his fellows are the sensitive fingers through which trouble is sensed, to be corrected. These men are the reporters, the field workers, the salesmen. With-out strong service officers in the ma-jority of Legion posts, the state or-ganizations, and the national, can do little for the disabled, the unemployed, in general, the troubled.

What sort of man should the service officer be, and what are his duties? The post service officer, I believe, should know his community as well as the mail carrier and somewhat better than the ward boss. He should be chosen by his post for the job precisely because he is this sort of man—friendly, interested in people, affable, persevering. He preferably has grown up in the town, a follow everyone likes and who makes a fellow everyone likes, and who makes it a point to know and like everyone—not a glad-hander, but a regular fellow.

The duties of a post service officer are, of course, local. He canvasses the whole community and ascertains by personal inquiry whether all veterans's claims are being taken care of. He may even obtain a list of service men of his community and interview or correspond with each one to find out if he needs and deserves anything from the Government. But plenty of chances for work will come to him if he merely keeps his ears open—cases of men who have claims against nation or State and, too, against the community that hailed them heroes.

The cases will be endless in variety—dollars and jobs, affidavits and letters, information and investigation, hos-



THE ISSUE SHIRT

THEY lined you up with the rookies for your issue of equipment. Out of that old war bag, you liked best the flannel shirt with its soft collar. If you got more than you bargained for in the line of size and seam inhabitants,

why, that's another story.

If you aren't wearing a shirt with soft collar attached nowadays, try the GORDON, an ARROW shirt. It is made of white Oxford and made to fit. It gives you that appearance of being well groomed without having made an extra and fussy effort.

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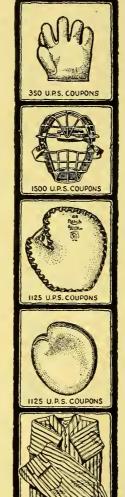
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or vocational training, or treatment in hospital. The service officer will know. The matter of government insurance alone is complicated. In Minnesota, for example, the Legion has acted as agent for the conversion and reinstatement of \$1,461,500 in government insurance in the last two years, and in that same time the Veterans Bureau, acting alone, has not handled so great an amount in the four States of Minnesota, Montana, and North and South Dakota. Many post service officers contributed to this aggregate achievement.

hey rate compensation for war injuries,

In addition to his duties of finding cases and settling them, the service officer must be something of a publicity man. He should receive and get cir-culation for government, state and Legion announcements affecting veterans.

Above all, he must maintain the personal touch. His is not a clerical job, but one that is intensely human. No buddy or relative of a buddy should buddy or relative of a buddy or feel ever hesitate to approach him or feel ever his office or shop. Visitors should be welcomed with the real Legion spirit and immediately put at ease. This is good manners. It is also good business. Cordiality will make any personal investigation more easily handled. No matter what the applicant wants, or how unfortunate his manner of approach, or what his appearance, he should be cheerfully greeted and made to feel entirely welcome. The service worker who uses any other tactics will ruin the work of the whole organization and bring discredit on the

The great difficulty lies in finding a man who can give his time and efforts to this work. Such men can be found more frequently than might be imag-In Minnesota, where every one of the five hundred posts has a service officer, they maintain a high order of efficiency, keeping constantly in touch with Veterans Bureau and Legion department headquarters as well as with the Legion liaison officer.

Next above the post service officer comes the county service organization, into which each post officer fits naturally. The county officer's duties are largely supervisory. He will have a list of post service officers in his county, should be well acquainted with them,

Additional Topnotchers

The week ending April 18th in the Weekly subscription card race saw both Idaho and Arizona romp ahead of the 1.000 mark to keep Georgia company. Are 1,000 mark to keep Georgia company. Are they resting on their laurels? Not so—Georgia now shows a 30 percent increase over her 1922 total. Here is the line-up on April 18th—the standing of the departments in proportion of 1923 cards received to total 1922 membership, and their standing on the same date in 1922 based on the 1921 membership:

192	3 1922	192	3 1922
1	Georgia 20	25	N. Dakota 19
2	Idaho 38	26	Penna 16
3	Arizona 46	27	Tennessee, 27
4	S. Dakota 25	28	Connecticut 45
5	N. Hampshire 31	29	Alabama 24
6	S. Carolina 26	30	Wisconsin 14
7	New York 40	31	Texas 32
8	Nebraska 9	32	Ohio 17
9	Arkansas 2	33	Kentucky 22
10	Iowa 12	34	Massachusetts 44
11	Illinois 37	35	Delaware 49
12	Nevada 11	36	Oklahoma 4
13	Maine 29	37	Mississippi 13
14	New Jersey 47	38	Montana 34
15	Utah 6	39	Virginia 30
16	Rhode Island . 18	40	Maryland 35
17	Kansas 28	41	Michigan 36
18	Indiana 23	42	Wyoming 7
19	Minnesota 15	43	N. Carolina 8
20	W. Virginia 42	44	Oregon 21
21	Vermont 5	45	Florida 1
22	Colorado 39	46	D. of C 33
23	Washington 48	47	Missouri 3
24	California 43	48	New Mexico 10
	49 Louisia		
	2001010		

and should be generally responsible for the advancement of all work. This is one method. In Minnesota, however, we have found it better to work by districts than by counties, and we have ten within the State, corresponding to the ten Congressional districts.

The biggest job of the district service officer is to see that the work is kept moving, that the lagging post officers are checked up, that publicity is forth-coming. The district officer should be able to raise money from the various civic and fraternal organizations that are interested in veteran welfare work. The money obtained should be available for the needy. The district officer also should conduct an employment bureau.

In large cities care must be taken against duplication of effort. The work is too heavy for one man. A welfare committee is needed with suitable headquarters and a paid secretary. Such a committee needs considerable funds to operate and for this reason should surely include business men whose reputations bear weight in that community. Legionnaires of just such qualifications are to be found in every large city and in the smaller ones, too, of course—men who can't find time to attend all post meetings or to participate actively in post social affairs, but who are glad to serve on welfare committees and proud to lend their prestige to the work. Put these men on the finance and welfare committees and they'll get the money.

Given the money, and not a great sum either, the district welfare work can go on apace. The paid secretary should have the spending of it—some live Legionnaire who is personally responsible, or who is bonded and who works under the supervision of the audit and finance sub-committee. The secretary will keep a careful cross-file of all cases and will immediately communicate his information about incoming cases to the other welfare agencies of the community—this, to prevent duplication of effort and to increase speed in handling.

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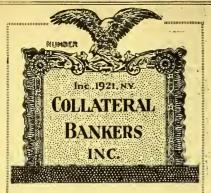
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Also available are:

The History of the Twenty-Ninth Division. Price, five dollars. The History of the Fourth Division. Price two dollars.

All orders, with check or money order remittance, should be sent to the Legion Library, 627 West 43d Street, New York City.

I have frequently referred because I am familiar with its work, uses with great success this urban and rural system of organization for service work. one district alone, the Fourth, so well demonstrated its fitness to handle public funds for relief work that the city of St. Paul included the Legion for participation in the community chest fund during 1923 to the extent of \$17,000. Before this the Legion had had to raise its own funds and contrived to get its own funds and contrived to get along with \$6,000 to \$12,000 annually in this district.

The work of this particular district may not be typical, but it is inspiring, and I am going to tell briefly what this Legion group has accomplished. In 1922, the committee recorded 42,174 good deeds done, at a net cost of \$4,697.53. That's about fifteen cents a good deed. The list includes free meals, lodging, train fare, clothing, loans, funerals, rents paid, coal orders, claims handled—scores of varied human-interest items.

The state or department service bureau may be one man or several. It is the clearing house for all claims within the State, particularly those that have been difficult or impossible of settlement by local, county or district service officers, or cases that have their roots in several communities within the State.

The department officer should make it a point to keep on the best of working terms with the representatives of the Veterans Bureau. He should re-member the difficulties under which these government employes frequently an immense amount of work and a multitude of sometimes conflicting orders. Briefly summarized, his duties

will consist of: Keeping in touch with Legion National Headquarters and with other States.

Getting and distributing to local service officers and district welfare committees the necessary blank forms.

Maintaining some sort of card index of information from which the answer to any inquiry may be instantly withdrawn, or from which reference may be had to other sources of more detailed information.

Installing complete filing system and establishing an accurate follow-up system so that cases may be neither lost,

forgotten nor delayed.

Now the function of none of these service officers—post, district, or state -is to usurp the Government's responsibility, but rather to supplement its work. The Legion officer must know what the Government offers, and must let each individual know how much of the benefit is due him. Through all the service must run the thread of personal interest, for without this interest any work, particularly welfare work, must All service workers must believe in the Legion, believe in the service it can do, believe in doing it themselves.

The work should never be uninteresting, for humor and pathos, comedy and tragedy, are encountered in it day after day. The visitors on a typical Monday morning might run something like this: A man wishing to be transferred from one form of vocational training to another; a man asking to be reimbursed for the funeral expenses of his brother, a veteran; a widowed mother seeking aid to bury her boy; a youngster complaining that he is about to be sent to a sanitarium; a gold star father seeking a firing squad for his son, whose body has just been returned from France; a mother begging the Legion to do something for a son in prison. The cases are never-ending, never quite

It is a great work and a work peculiarly our own. It merits the interest and help of every Legionnaire.

A New System for Handling Claims

To speed up the handling of service men's claims against the Government and to avoid duplication of effort by Legion agencies, the following procedure has been outlined by the Director of the National Service Division:

Post service officers or post adjutants will continue to assist disabled men to prepare their claims and will submit those claims presenting no difficulties or complications direct to the nearest sub-district office of the Veterans Bureau for adjustment.

Where difficulties require it, post service officers or the claimants them-

selves may forward claims to the service officer of the department in which the claim originates. In states where no Legion service officer is maintained, such claims will be forwarded to the Legion department adjutant.

Department service officers or adjutants will establish and maintain contact with the sub-district offices of the Veterans Bureau having jurisdiction within their States.

All claims which cannot be satisfactorily settled by the department service officer or adjutant with a sub-district

Bonds and **Stocks**

By "FINANCE"

It may seem elementary to many readers to have us attempt to outline the difference between bonds and stocks. It may be en-lightening to some, however, and so we shall briefly state the main points of departure.

If a company has both bonds and stocks outstanding the owners of the bonds are creditors of the company; the stockholders stand in the light of partners. A company sells bonds and stocks in order to obtain working capital for the business; the money obtained from the sale of bonds is a loan and the company obligates itself to pay interest the company obligates itself to pay interest on them and at a specified future date repay to the bondholders the face value of the bond. When a company sells stock it sells an interest in the business; the stockholder is entitled to a share in the profits, evidenced by the payment of dividends, or in case of hard times, possibly a share in the losses too. The income the stockholders receives is dependent upon earnings and if earnings are large he prospers, but if they are small what he receives is also small, or he may get nothing at all.

The owner of a bond knows exactly what rate of interest he is going to receive, he never expects more or less. A stockholder, on the other hand, may receive varying amounts in dividends, all depending upon how prosperous the business is. A bond, paying a fixed rate of interest, is not subject to any great fluctuations in price; the price of a stock will vary with the size of the earnings. A stock, therefore, offers greater possibilities for profit than a bond; the chance of loss too is greater.

Bond interest must be met before any dividends can be paid on the stock. Interest on bonds is a fixed charge, and docs not necessarily come out of earnings; dividends, necessarily come out of earnings; dividends, however, always are, or should be, paid out of earnings, and earnings are what is left after payment of fixed charges and other expenses incident to the operation of the business. Suppose two men buy a building and open a grocery store. Suppose the building is mortgaged for \$10,000 at five percent, they must pay the \$500 yearly interest. cent.; they must pay the \$500 yearly interest or the store will be sold. This is also true of big companies with bonds outstanding, secured by mortgages on their properties; unless the bond interest is paid their properties will be sold, and the company put out of business. The two men with the grocery business find that after paying the \$500 interest, insurance, salaries, and all the other expenses connected with the enterprise a balance of \$6,000 on the year's operations remains. This is profit, and they decide that they will put \$2,000 back into the business and divide the remaining \$4,000. This \$4,000 is comparable to the dividends the stockholders of any enterprise

The main difference then between interest and dividends is that interest is something that must be paid; dividends are paid only in case they are earned. The stockholders own the business, and the owners of the bonds are its creditors. If the business is a big money maker the stockholders benefit, but the bondholders have a more certain investment, and what is more, an investment for which definitely specified property is pledged as a guaranty of its soundness.

Bonds, therefore, are for the man who cannot afford to take chances, who considers a reasonably sure thing better than a speculation. Stocks are more suitable for people in a position to assume some risk on the possibility of larger returns.

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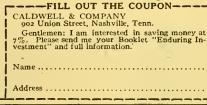
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office will be referred by the department service officer or adjutant to the liaison representative of the Legion in the district office of the Veterans Bureau.

Meritorious cases which cannot be satisfactorily adjusted in a district office of the Veterans Bureau may be forwarded to Washington for consideration by the board of appeals at the central office of the Veterans Bureau. When cases are forwarded on appeal to Washington notice should be given the contact office of the Legion's National Service Division, 417 Bond Building, Washington, D. C., which will then follow up cases and protect the rights of the claimant.

The procedure set forth above is a decentralization of the Legion's service efforts. In the past a vast number of claims have been handled weekly through the central office of the National Service Division at Indianapolis. Under the old system, difficult claims were forwarded by post service officers

or individual claimants to the Service Division at National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The Indianapolis office of the Service Division referred these claims for the most part to the sub-district offices of the Veterans Bureau and to the Legion's liaison representaand to the Legion's harson representa-tives in each of the fourteen district offices of the Veterans Bureau. The new system cuts out one link in the chain of correspondence and is therefore calculated to speed up adjustments.

The adoption of this new system is made possible by the recent establishment of a Co-operation Section in each district and sub-district office of the Veterans Bureau. In each office the Co-operation Section is charged with the responsibility of maintaining contact with the Legion and other organizations aiding the disabled. The new Co-operation Sections are devising means of working with the department headquarters of the Legion in the States which they serve.

Contributors to the Overseas Graves Fund

THE Weekly publishes in every issue a list of contributors who have given one dollar or more to the Graves Endowment Fund. Owing to the necessity for rechecking this list to insure accuracy, it is a few days behind the total as given on page 8. Names of contributing Legion and Auxiliary units are printed in boldface type. Checks for the Graves Endowment Fund should be made payable to the National Treasurer, The American Legion, and addressed to him at National Headquarters, The American Legion, Indianapolis, Ind.

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"Our Boys"

(Continued from page 6)

And honestly, you who have lived as I have lived, and sensed the glory of that vision, you have changed. You never vision, you have changed. You never again will measure values as you did before the war. You may acquire riches (because they seem to demand it) but down inside you you know what the true values or the state of the second seco what the true values are.

Oh, yes-and then there is the question of the flapper and the jazz queen. Do you really think we are to blame there? Let me explain. We come back—not by any means rich, and with a few good years of our life wasted as measured by their standard. Give us credit for keeping our pride. And pride says this: "You can't ask this girl to be your wife until you can give her as good or better than she has at present, until you are sure you can always provide for her and the children you hope to have. For unless they can be so educated as to help the human race in its upward climb, then it is better to remain silent and single." And the boy that stayed at home, and tion of the flapper and the jazz queen. And the boy that stayed at home, and pushed ahead years in business, made big money, and now has a good position and maybe a car—can you compete with him? You can—in any other way but that, and you could there if she were willing to wait. But you can't bear to appear in that light in her eyes, and so you just cut loose.

I might say much more on the question, but it is a whole volume in itself,

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and while it has much to do with our present status I can't cover it here.

To get back to the theme. We found that money seemed to be the all-important thing. Every few men (our pals) killed in the war had produced a new millionaire. This was reality. Was it for this we had been fighting? But there they were, and here they are still. And it seems they had been misusing and making a fool of the Government.

Aren't these moneyed boys the ones who shouted loudest about patriotism and defending our honor and our It seems the camouflage has been pretty well worn off, but of course they will paint it up new when it is again needed. At present it is laid away in mothballs. And we wonder—just wonder—how much of that propaganda was true. Maybe if the Legion can put through its ideas about the next war—universal draft, no exemptions, no profits—maybe there won't be any such thing as a next war.

Let's see if we helped Europe. It doesn't seem so. They are hard at it trying to start another good one—there is a lot of money in guns and ammunition.

With such things in our heads do you wonder that the light has gone from our eyes? But don't misjudge us-this system they have built up is wonderful, only slightly perverted. And we are groping—trying to find ourselves. The cohesion of the army is gone, and we can't act together as we did formerly. The Legion is young; it will have to work and grow slowly if we are ever to be of service. It can't crush this huge machine, for that would mean anarchy. Slowly but surely we hope to grow stronger, and by the very truth and honesty of our suggestions force these changes through, until the world does become a somewhat better place to live in. But we will never achieve all of our vision—at best it will be a compromise -so be kind and blame the lost light on disillusionment. Give us the assistance we need, for the Legion cannot accomplish much unless backed up by the people.

You say, Mississippi girl, you wish you "women and girls could give back that golden light which kept us safe and sure and pure." You can, though I am afraid it will have to be done in-dividually, but think if each one of you would do that how quickly we would find ourselves! And you also need help. You must admit that, speaking collectively, you have slipped badly in the last few years—perchance because you have not learned to use your new found freedom properly. Don't think we are in love with ourselves or think we are anywhere near perfect but we are anywhere near perfect, but womanhood sets the standard, and raises or lowers it at will. We set her on a pedestal, but she would have none So we will be just what she demands of us and no more. But there lurks within each one of us that desire to worship her, to give her credit for qualities we do not possess, and to give our life to that end if necessary.

I am glad your letter was written and published, for we do need to know that some at least want us to be better. Little girl from Mississippi, I salute you! A REMNANT OF THE A. E. F.

THE article "Have We Changed?" is true—and not true. Our boys have changed, and it is possible there are

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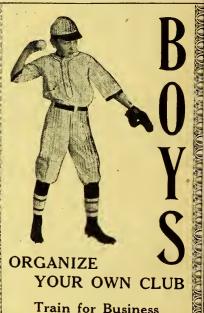
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adequate reasons. Stop and think of the soldier boy as he left for over there. He was lauded, dined, toasted, paraded, well-nigh worshipped by a public in the highest frenzy of patriotism. Some of them were spoiled by it, perhaps, but more a public in the highest frenzy of patriotism. Some of them were spoiled by it, perhaps, but more endured the unspeakable hardships of war and returned unspoiled. The service rendered, patriotism more or less at an ebb at home (for no country can remain at a high pitch forever), the boys were turned loose with a few dollars, none of them who had gone through actual battle in the same physical fitness that they were before, to hunt any sort of work by which they could keep body and soul together. Most of them found their old jobs taken and not released. The taking of the jobs was natural, for the work had to be done, but it was just as important that our thousands of boys should still retain their faith in their country. retain their faith in their country.

I believe the change is the result of lack of work, of being forced to take work for which they were not fitted, this ever-delayed compensation and the inevitable discouragement and disillusion which it is bound to cause in the hearts of the men who did the most for their country. Can a government ever repay a single soldier for any one of his hardships? It might help them materially, and promptly, which it has not done, but it can never repay them. The most it could do would be only a small payment on a principal bigger than money

than money

The soldier does not want the Gov-ernment to support him, but he would gratefully accept help when he needs it the most. When he thinks of the enormous wartime wages he missed through his honest patriotism, the un-speakable privations, the life he risked, the wounds or disabilities he received, together with the present impossibility, in so years many cases, of getting emin so very many cases, of getting em-ployment of any kind or receiving help from the one source that owes him the most, no one can blame him if his ideals suffer an eclipse.

I AM a soldier's wife. My husband is an enthusiastic Legionnaire and adjutant of our home post, and I am secretary of the Auxiliary. Some of the cases we have had in our work are pitiful. Concrete examples are not always the most fair, but when we know them and work for them it makes me, for one, pretty bitter at the indifference we meet, sometimes, with the higher-ups.

difference we meet, sometimes, with the higher-ups.

Take, for example, the young man whose home is in a little town not many miles from us. He returned from the war with a French wife and baby, broken in health, utterly unable to earn a living. They tried repeatedly to get compensation for him and hospital treatment, but owing to some mixup in his papers (I do not know the exact trouble) he could get neither until the mixup was straightened out, which took almost two years, in spite of every effort, though there was never a doubt he was an honorably discharged soldier he was an honorably discharged soldier needing care. The little French wife, a well-educated girl, was forced to take a well-educated girl, was forced to take in washing, and just before the birth of her second baby was turned out of her home—this in a supposedly very religious and patriotic community—for non-payment of rent. The baby died, and it was a long time before they got the first cent of compensation

Remember—Memorial All All Remember (Charles)

All Remember (Charles)

All Remember (Charles)

The American Legion



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which they should have had in the beginning. Do you wonder what that French wife's opinion of our country and our people must be? The young man is now in a government hospital with but a few months to live, though he could have been saved with proper

care at the right time.

Just this fall a young friend lay dangerously ill with tuberculosis as the result of being gassed. He had been sick for a long time, and his people were in such humble circumstances that they could not afford the right care themselves. More red tape was responsible for delay until it was too late to move him to a hospital, and still more red tape prevented a government nurse from being put on the case until the night before he died.

Older people than I are saying that this has been the hardest winter they have ever known. We know many soldiers, in varying degrees of physical fitness, young men with families on their hands, willing and eager to work, but there is no work to be had. It is now, and not in some distant and uncertain future, that the soldier needs some return for the big favor. Promises will not fill little stomachs or pay the coal man. Oh, if our country, that the boys served so faithfully and successfully in its hour of need, would only help them now in their dark hour! Almost every day new cases come to light, so pitiful in their poverty, so scemingly hopeless in their struggles,

so steadily more bitter in their attitude toward what seems an ungrateful Government, that we who come in daily contact with them grow sick with apprehension for the future.

The question of ideals, you see, depends mightily on bread and butter. If there were more real, prompt action by the Government and less eternal red tape, more real sympathy and less criticism, more of the milk of human kindness and less of the sullen indifference with the general idea conveyed to the soldier that "now we've got all we can out of you, you can root, hog, or die," I believe you would see a big difference in the matter of "ideals" among returned soldiers. What would you think of a personal friend who allowed, even asked, another to risk his life for him, to give him all of his time for board and room and meager spending money, to endure the greatest of hardships for him and receive his wounds, and then, in a few years, parleys, postpones, procrastinates when the same long-suffering friend is really in need of a helping hand, until sometimes it is too late for the much needed assistance?

Our boys are patriotic, never fear, though in many cases they are hurt and wondering at the neglect and indifference they have met with on all sides. As one tuberculous man said, "If they won't help me when I'm living, damn their flowers and memorials after I'm

dead!"

A VETERAN'S WIFE

The Movies Discover America

(Continued from page 5)

of Buffalo Bill," Director Laemmle crammed in historical episodes by the dozen, everywhere that he could, in-cluding the building of the Union Pacific Railway, the boyhood of Andrew Johnson and the assassination of President Lincoln. Following that, the word "serial" was discarded in favor of "historical chapter play" when the third of the series, "The Oregon Trail," was launched. It was discovered that the more history you inject, the more friends you make among persons who used to look askance on the old blood and thunder sort of thing. Parents and school-teachers begin to boost instead of knock, and publicity comes easier.

Another thing, curious but of vital importance to the manufacturer these days—the censor doesn't dare to be so arbitrary with these new films when he is making cuts. His ban may be harsh upon slaughter, but he hasn't the face to say that a picture of the Battle of the Big Horn will incite the youth of the land to run away from home to slaughter wild Indians. He can't contend in the face of historical evidence that Sir Walter Raleigh didn't use tobacco, or contradict the legend that Rip Van Winkle drank. Men shouldn't shoot at one another, either, but a censor would make himself ridiculous if he tried to deny that Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr fought a pistol duel. The directors chortle often to themselves these days about the way they can manage to get thrills back into the movies with good protection against the interference of officious busybodies. Incidentally, they eliminate a considerable item of expense. Censorship has cost them many thousands.
This latter saving, however, and

much more besides, the producers put back into the pictures with a free hand. In their enthusiasm about historical background, they are lavishing money in a style that few of them dared risk doing a few years ago; Wall Street then was enforcing a policy of economy upon the films, warning them to pare expenses or they would get no more loans.

But today huge sums are not grudged if the directors can show impressive pictorial results. For one conspicuous example, no protest appears to have been raised by the efficiency man against the way Jesse Lasky and James Cruze lavished money in making the Paramount film version of Emerson Hough's novel, "The Covered Wagon," a story of the mountain and desert trails of the Far West in 1848. In a Utah desert, eighty miles from the nearest railway station, Mr. Cruze maintained for three months a camp of nearly three thousand actors and supernumeraries. A thousand of these players were Indians. By permission of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, braves and squaws of five scattered tribes were assembled in war paint and feathers for the occasion under command of Major T. J. McCoy. Scouts of the picture company then gathered from all over the West all the old prairie schooners they could find, and modern additions were built until finally a train of five hundred covered wagons was mustered. For a prairie fire scene they burned up nine square miles of plain. Then they adjourned to Antelope Island, in Great Salt Lake, where five hundred bison are herded, and there filmed a buffalo hunt.

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movies have the habit now, and wouldn't think of staging a pioneer feature in a piker way. The Universal players, with several hundred Northwestern Indians in the cast, marooned themselves for ten weeks in Big Bear Valley, California, to make scenes of "The Oregon Trail." Marshall Neilan and his company, in filming "Bob Hampton of Placer," a movieized version of Custer's last stand, resorted first to Glacier Park, Montana, resorted first to Glacier Fark, Montana, and then to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, to take their battle scenes. In all, they used two thousand extras, including fifteen hundred men of the Tenth U. S. Cavalry and about four hundred Indians. To obtain proper elevation for his photographers, Director Neilan on several occasions had the scenes shot several occasions had the scenes shot from a balloon.

These western pioneer films are not the only productions with historical flavor that require big expenditures. All of these restorations of by-gone backgrounds, if they are done conscientiously (as most of them are), cost

large sums.

The Cosmopolitan Productions, for their picture version of Rida Johnson
Young's play, "Little Old New York"
—the New York City of 1807—have
built what is reported to be "the largest indoor set ever used in a motion picture." No picture studio was large enough to hold the set called for in the specifications, a replica of the lower end of Broadway with Bowling Green and all the tributary side streets, as shown in old prints of a hundred years ago. On the drill floor of the 23rd Regiment armory in Brooklyn the film men erected a set four stories high and covering no less than an acre and a half. From Joseph Urban's designs, with no curb on the expense, they rebuilt as faithfully as possible all the shops and houses and public buildings that used to be near the little park with the iron picket fence—all faithfully, even to the trees that the old prints showed.

Then came the problem of lighting so big a set in a building not equipped as a studio. Two dozen overhead domes, three dozen banks (sidelights), thirty spotlights and finally all the sunlight arcs that could be obtained the latter million-candle-power affairs so powerful that they will singe your hair or give you a sunburn at close range—had to be provided. For the extra people five hundred men's costumes of the period had to be collected, and all the resources of New York and Philadelphia in that line were taxed to furnish them. Your reporter saw one furnish them. Your reporter saw of of the scenes filmed a few weeks ago a small army of citizens of Little Old New York, mostly in tall hats and spike tail coats or old-time sailors' garb, rushing through the streets when a fire alarm sounded. On the screen, after the final cutting, this scene will be only a few feet of film-little more than a flash. Few who watch it will have time to pause and wonder how much money, time and trouble in direction it represents.

In The American Legion film, "The Man Without a Country," which is being exhibited under the direction of The American Legion Film Service, the pistols used in the reproduction of the Hamilton-Burr duel are the weapons which were employed in the actual historical event that ended in Hamilton's death, and the scenes depicting the attack of the Algiers pirates were shot on the U.S.S. Constitution itself. In another picture shown under Legion

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case. It can hardly be more hopeless than Corporal Fernie's was.

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auspices—the film version of Robert W. Chambers's "Cardigan"—Paul Revere's ride and the battle of Lexington are re-enacted over the ground where the events took place in 1775.

Probably few who saw "Java Head" this winter, in the Paramount film of

Hergesheimer's novel, appreciated fully at what labor and expense the scenes of the Salem, Massachusetts, of the late '40s were reproduced. The old colonial house in Salem, the supposed original of that snug harbor called "Java Head," was secured for the photoplay, and the sailing ship used in the picture was an old whaler which made her first voyage to the Pacific in 1841.

The 1620 British man-o'-war called The 1620 British man-o'-war called for in the Genario of the Paramount film of Mary Johnston's historical novel, "To Have and to Hold," was secured by George Fitzmauriee by rebuilding an old three-masted South Sea trading schooner, the William G. Irwin, into a duplicate of a warship of three hundred vears ago.

Goldwyn Pietures were just as conscientious about detail in their reconstruction of the Five Points slum in the New York City of 1869 when they were filming Gertrude Atherton's story, "Don't Negleet Your Wife"—a title, by the way, to which the author objected violently, and which she changed to "Sleeping Fires" a year later when she made over the same plot into a novel.

But enough. Here, at least, is ample evidence to prove the point that the movies not only have discovered America's past but are enthusiastically doing their best to squeeze out of that past all of the historical flavor they know how to extract,

Ten Thoughts for American Legion Chaplains

1. Be an active member. It's not what you preach—it's what you do.

2. Keep all American Legion exercises out of the churches. public halls for all ceremonies.

3. Keep a religious spirit in the Legion. Our motto is: "Keep The American Legion out of the churches, but by all means keep the church

spirit in The American Legion."
4. See that The American Legion at any functions, dinners or meetings recognizes all men of the cloth who are invited. The Legion recognizes the need of religion. Its members therefore should recognize representatives of religion.

5. Avoid controversy, but never compromise your position.

6. Avoid discussion in secular affairs unless they trespass on your activities.

7. Be prudent, lenient and conciliatory, but never subservient.
8. Work to keep the Legion free

from friction.

9. Remember your duty to be interested in the wounded and the poor.

Be kind to the gold-star 10. mother and helpful to Auxiliary. WILLIAM P. O'CONNOR

National Chaplain



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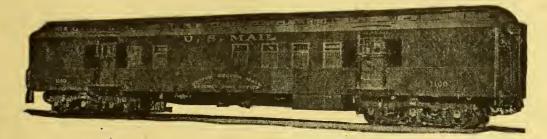
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